NUMB. CLVII.

The SPECTATOR.

—— Sed tu ſimul obligaſti
Perfidum votis caput, enitescis
Pulchrior multo —— Hor.

Wedneſday, Auguſt 29. 1711.

I Do not think any thing could make a pleaſanter Entertainment, than the Hiſtory of the reigning Favourites among the Women from Time to Time about this Town. In ſuch an Account we ought to have a faithful Confeſſion of each Lady for what ſhe liked ſuch and ſuch a Man, and we ought to tell us by what particular Action or Dreſs ſhe believed he ſhould be moſt ſucceſsful. As for my part, I have always made as eaſy a Judgment when a Man dreſſes for the Ladies, as when he is equipped for Hunting or Courſing. The Woman's Man is a Species in his Air and Behaviour quite different from the reſt of our Species: His Garb is more looſe and negligent, his Manner more ſoft and indolent; that is to ſay, in both theſe Caſes there is an apparent Endeavour to appear unconcerned and careleſs. As in catching Birds the Fowlers have a Method of counterfeiting their Voices to bring them to the Snare; ſo your Woman's Men have always a Similitude of the Creature they hope to betray, in their own Conſtitution. A Woman's Man is very knowing in all that paſſes from one Family to another, has little Services Officiouſneſſes, is not at a Loſs what is good for a Cold, and it is not amiſs if he has a Bottle of Spirits in his Pocket in caſe of any ſudden Indiſpoſition.

Curioſity having been my prevailing Paſſion, and indeed the ſole Entertainment of my Life, I have ſometimes made it my Buſineſs to examine the Courſe of Intreagues, as well as the Manners and Accompliſhments of ſuch as have been moſt ſucceſsful that Way. In all my Obſervation, I never knew a Man of good Underſtanding a general Favourite; ſome Singularity in his Behaviour, ſome Humour in his Way of Life, and what would have made him ridiculous among the Men, has recommended him to the other Sex. I ſhould be very ſorry to offend a People ſo fortunate as theſe of whom I am ſpeaking; but let any one look over the old Beaux, and he will find the Man of Succeſs was remarkable for quarrelling impertinently for their Sakes, for dreſſing unlike the reſt of the World, or paſſing his Days in an inſipid Aſſiduity about the fair Sex, to gain the Figure he made amongſt them. Add to this that he muſt have the Reputation of being well with other Women, to pleaſe any one Woman of Gallantry; for you are to know, that there is a mighty Ambition among the light Part of the Sex to gain Slaves from the Dominion of others. My Friend WILL. HONEYCOMB ſays it was a common Bite with him to lay Suſpicions that he was favoured by a Lady's Enemy, that is ſome rival Beauty, to be well with her herſelf. A little Spite is natural to a great Beauty; and it is ordinary to ſnap up a diſagreeable Fellow leaſt another ſhould have him. That impudent Toad *Bareface* fares well among all the Ladies he converſes with, for no other Reaſon in the World but that he has the Skill to keep them from Explanation with one another. Did they know there is not one who likes him in her Heart, each would declare her Scorn of him the next Moment; but he is well received by them becauſe it is the Faſhion, and Oppoſition to each other brings them inſenſibly into an Imitation of each other. What adds to him the greateſt Grace is, that the pleaſant Thief, as they call him, is the moſt inconſtant Creature living, has a wonderful deal of Wit and Humour, and never wants ſomething to ſay; beſides all which he has a moſt ſpiteful dangerous Tongue if you ſhould provoke him.

To make a Woman's Man, he muſt not be a Man of Senſe or a Fool; the Buſineſs is to entertain, and it is much better to have a Faculty of arguing than a Capacity of judging right. But the pleaſanteſt of all the Women's Equipage are your regular Viſitants; theſe are Volunteers in their Service without Hopes of Pay or Preferment: It is enough that they can lead out from a publick Place, that they are admitted on a publick Day, and can

be

be allowed to pass away Part of that heavy Load, their Time, in the Company of the Fair. but commend me above all others to those who are known for your Ruiners of Ladies; these are the choicest Spirits which our Age produces. We have several of these irresistible Gentlemen among us when the Company is in Town. These Fellows are accomplished with the Knowledge of the ordinary Occurrences about Court and Town, have that sort of good Breeding which is exclusive of all Morality, and consists only in being publickly decent, privately dissolute.

It is wonderful how far a fond Opinion of herself can carry a Woman to make her have the least Regard to a professed known Woman's Man: But as scarce one of all the Women who are in the Tour of Gallantries ever hears any thing of what is the common Sense of sober Minds, but are entertained with a continual Round of Flatteries, they cannot be Mistresses of themselves enough to make Arguments for their own Conduct from the Behaviour of these Men to others. It is so far otherwise, that a general Fame for Falshood in this kind is a Recommendation; and the Coxcomb, loaded with the Favours of many others, is received like a Victor that disdains his Trophies to be a Victim to the present Charmer.

If you see a Man more full of Gesture than ordinary in a publick Assembly, if loud upon no Occasion, if negligent of the Company round him, and yet laying wait for destroying by that Negligence, you may take it for granted that he has ruined many a fair One. The Woman's Man expresses himself wholly in that Motion which we call Strutting: An elevated Chest, a pinched Hat, a measurable Step, and a sly surveying Eye, are the Marks of him. Now and then you see a Gentleman with all these Accomplishments; but alass any one of them is enough to undo thousands: When a Gentleman with such Perfections adds to it suitable Learning, there should be publick Warning of his Residence in Town, that we may remove our Wives and Daughters. It happens sometimes that such a fine Man has read all the Miscellany Poems, a few of our Comedies, and has the Translation of *Ovid*'s Epistles by Heart. Oh if it were possible that such a one could be as true as he is charming! but that is too much, the Women will share such a dear false Man: 'A little 'Gallantry to hear him Talk one would indulge 'one's self in, let him reckon the Sticks of one's 'Fan, say something of the Cupids in it, and then 'call one so many soft Names which a Man of his 'Learning has at his Fingers Ends. There sure is 'some Excuse for Frailty when attack'd by such 'Force against a weak Woman. Such is the Soliloquy of many a Lady one might name, at the Sight of one of these who makes it no Iniquity to go on from Day to Day in the Sin of Woman-slaughter.

It is certain that People are got into a way of Affection with a manner of overlooking the most solid Virtues, and admiring the most trivial Excellencies. The Woman is so far from expecting to be contemned for being a very injudicious silly Animal, that while she can preserve her Features and her Mein she knows she is still the Object of Desire; and there is a sort of secret Ambition, from reading frivolous Books, and keeping as frivolous Company, each-side to be amiable in Imperfection, and arrive at the Characters of the dear Deceiver and the perjured Fair.

ERRATA.

In Yesterday's Spectator, *Col.* 2, *Line* 25, *for* judicious *read* ingenuous. *Col.* 3, *line* 20, *read* and that of all other Dealers.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Mr. SPECTATOR *gives his most humble Service to Mr.* R. M. *of* Chippenham *in* Wilts, *and hath received the Patridges.*

Never acted there before.

By Her Majesty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, on Friday next, being the 31st of August, will be revived, a Comedy call'd, Love's a Jest. The Part of Railmore by Mr. Mills, Lovewell Mr. Elrington, Airy Mr. Bowman, Sir Topewell Clowniſh Mr. Johnſon, Squire Ill-bred Mr. Bullock, Sir Tho. Gaymood Mr. Croſs, Sam. Gaymood Mr. Pack, Plot Mr. Norris, Humphry Doddipole Mr. Burkhead, Frankly Mr. Bullock Jun. Lady Single Mrs. Porter, Francelia Mrs. Bradſhaw, Chriſtina Miſs Willis, Kitty Miſs Sherborn, Dol Hoyden Mrs. Willis. This being the laſt time of acting till Winter.

The Right Honourable the late Lord Brooke's Houſhold-Goods, in, and belonging to his Lordſhip's Houſe in Twickenham near Brentford, in the County of Middleſex; conſiſting of fine Beds and Bedding, Indian Cabinets, Looking Glaſſes, Marble Tables, Chairs, Tapiſtry, Hangings, fine old China-Ware, Linnen, Pictures, Pewter, Braſs, and all ſorts of Kitchin-Ware, will be ſold by Auction at the ſaid Houſe on Monday the 3d of September next. The Goods, &c. to be ſeen to Morrow, Friday, and Saturday before the Sale. The Sale to begin at Ten in the Morning, and to continue till all are ſold.

Doctor *Colebursts* moſt famous Elixir, and Salt of Lemmons, which have effected ſuch ſurprizing Cures in all diſtempers, that the Endeavours of Counterfeits are baffled and aſtonished, are ſtill ſold in vaſt Quantities by Mr. Lawrence Green at the great Poſts in Dean-ſtreet in Fetter-lane, and no where elſe in Great-Britain, where the ſame may be had Wholeſale with Allowance, or Retail, with Direction for Travellers and others, as the uſual Prices, viz. The Elixir at 2 s. per ouz. Bottle, half Bottle at 1 s. Salt of Lemmons 2 s. 6 d. per ouz. Bottle, half Bottle 1 s. 3 d. N.B. The Paper of Directions is ſtamped to prevent Counterfeits, or ignorant Pretenders.

R. Stoughton, Apothecary, in Southwark, having ſome Time ſince, by Order of a Merchant, ſent 50 Dozen of his Cordial Elixir to Sweden, has lately receiv'd Advice, that Numbers of People finding it a great Preſerver of Health, drink it every Morning: And further to aſſure it is ſo, hath a Certificate from thence, That (to the Perſon's beſt Knowledge and Obſervation) not one who took it hath had the Diſeaſe, and many are of Opinion it hath been of great Uſe in ſtopping the Progreſs of it. He hath also a Certificate from on board a Ship at Jamaica, That after 6 or 7 of the Men died in 24 Hours of a malignant Diſtemper, the Captain himſelf (fearing he ſhould loſe all his Men) gave the reſt, who were ſeiz'd, plentifully of this Elixir (which for many Years he took with him) and by God's Bleſſing on it ſaved every Man after. He is not only willing, but deſirous this may be publiſh'd for the Good of others. Few now will go to Sea or travel without it. The Certificates themſelves any Gentleman may ſee if they pleaſe. N.B. Several Boxes are juſt now beſpoke again for Sweden, and I hear the Great Phyſicians have order'd it into the Army.

The Vapours in Women infallibly Cured in an Inſtant, ſo as never to return again, by an admirable Chymical Secret, a few drops of which takes off a Fit in a Moment, diſpels Giddineſs, clears the Head, takes away all Swimming, Giddineſs, Dimneſs of Sight, Fluſhings in the Face, &c. to a Miracle, and moſt certainly prevents the Vapours returning again; for by Rooting out the very Cauſe it perfectly Cures as Hundreds have experienced. It alſo ſtrengthens the Stomach and Bowels, and cauſes Lively Looks and ſetled Health. Is ſold only at Mrs. Osborn's, Toy-ſhop, at the Bible and Crown under St. Dunſtan's Church in Fleet-ſtreet, at 2 s. the Bottle, with directions.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in: as alſo by *Charles Liſlie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.